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May 13, 1904

I respectfully recommend that I be authorized to appoint three experienced lay inspectors * * * for this duty, and an acting assistant. *

Respectfully,

T. F. RICHARDSON,
Passed Assistant Surgeon.

The SURGEON-GENERAL, Washington.

[Reply.]

WASHINGTON, May 9, 1904.

RICHARDSON, Laredo, Tex.:

Replying your letter 3d, authorized nominate 3 lay inspectors * * * and 1 acting assistant * * * for antimosquito work between Laredo and Corpus Christi; also nominate an inspector * * * for duty at Rio Grande City, as recommended.

WYMAN.

Visit to Minera and Cannel—Vaccination.

Acting Assistant Surgeon Sauvignet reports, May 3, through Passed Assistant Surgeon Richardson, as follows:

In compliance with instructions of the 1st instant, I have the honor to state that I proceeded to Minera, Tex., on the 2d instant, for the purpose of doing what vaccination was practicable, and for general observation.

All adults and a large number of the children were found to be well vaccinated, but in a house to house visit, accompanied by the resident surgeon, I vaccinated 80 children between the ages of 3 months and 5 years.

Barrels containing water were also inspected and found to be free from mosquito eggs or larvæ, nor is the mosquito present in this camp at this time. Barrels are in general use for the water supply, there being nearly always two at each house. A strong southeast wind prevails.

Cannel was also visited, but I did no vaccination, my supply of virus having been exhausted at Minera. The water supply there is the same as that at Minera, but owing to the low range of hills east of the camp ventilation is not so thorough. The creek or arroyo on the east of Cannel has some standing water, which, owing to lack of time, I did not inspect; but the company have a car of crude oil at Laredo which will be used for the treatment of this creek.

From 200 to 250 vaccine points will probably be needed for the thorough vaccination of Cannel. The population is estimated at 1,800.

Circular of instructions for mosquito destruction at Nuevo Laredo.

The following is received from Passed Assistant Surgeon Richardson, under date of May 4:

I have the honor to inclose herewith a copy of circular of instructions for mosquito destruction, which is being distributed in Nuevo Laredo, together with a translation of the same.

The United States consul in that city informs me that there is now in operation there a house-to-house inspection, together with supervision of water containers.

[Inclosure.—Translation.]

Instructions for the destruction of the mosquito.

**EACH PERSON IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE EXISTENCE OF MOSQUITOES
IN HIS HOUSE.**

1. Mosquitoes breed only in deposits of clean water.
2. Mosquitoes live in the vicinity where they breed. Invasions from a distance are rare.
3. The larvæ of the mosquito live in the water from seven to twelve days. Notwithstanding that they are natives of the water, the mosquito larvæ must rise to the surface to breathe the free air.
4. If the surface of the water is covered with petroleum the larvæ can not breathe and they die.
5. Destroy the water deposits where the mosquitoes breed and their breeding will be avoided.
6. Empty all tubs, buckets, tins, flowerpots, vases, etc., at least every two days.
7. All pools, ditches, or wells should be filled with dirt or drained.
8. Water intended for beasts, chickens, and all other animals should be renewed daily.
9. All water that can not be drained should be covered with petroleum—30 grams to each square meter of surface. The oil does not injure the water intended for use if it is drawn from below by means of a pump or other medium.
10. All cisterns, wells, or tanks of water in daily use should be covered with wire screens.
11. Deposits that do not admit of the use of petroleum, such as watering places for animals, will require the precaution of renewing the water daily and cleaning the deposits.
12. Vegetation around pools or wells of water should be destroyed, as it furnishes shelter for the adult mosquito.
13. Absolute cleanliness should be observed in vacant blocks and lots, and all trash should be burned.
14. The foregoing preventive measures are being practiced in this city by order of the superior sanitary council of Mexico, the public health demanding the same; but the latter, as well as the individual health, depends largely upon the cooperation of the inhabitants in the carrying out of the foregoing methods, and all citizens should consider themselves obligated to do, individually, all that is necessary to attain efficacious results in such a noble campaign, bearing in mind that the city is menaced by a new epidemic this year; and the knowledge of this fact alone should avoid the great responsibility to conscience and amenability to established laws consequent on refusing cooperation.

City of Laredo, Tamaulipas, April 15, 1904.

JUAN F. DE LA GARZA, *Mayor.*

Report from San Antonio—Mortality, April, 1904—Summary of sanitary work.

The following is received from Acting Assistant Surgeon Purnell:
San Antonio, Tex., May 2, 1904.—I have the honor to hand you the summary of the work done by the health department of San Antonio during the month of April, and I also hand you a statement of the